

IN THE UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, WESTERN DIVISION

*People ex rel.*

JAMES RUSSELL JOHNSON,

Plaintiff,

- Vs. -

RICHARD A. MEYERS,

Respondent,

No.: 08 C 50002

**FILED**

AUG 08 2008

MICHAEL W. DOBBINS  
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT.

A M E N D E D  
EMERGENCY PETITION FOR  
HABEAS CORPUS RELIEF  
PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3)

Pursuant to *28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3)* the plaintiff moves this Honorable Court with an amended emergency petition for habeas corpus relief. In support thereof, the plaintiff represents whereas:

1. The plaintiff has a number of 908 actual days of pretrial custody and wrongful imprisonment, as per a State of Illinois defective Class 4 felony 17th Judicial Circuit Winnebago County indictment 2003-CF-2192. This time is yet tolling, and is beyond a period of thirty (30) month's, to date. This case is five (5) years old, with in excess of 2 1/2 years of purported "pre-trial" actual custody time; This defective indictment, is for an alleged offense which is a non-existent criminal offense under Illinois Law;

2. The plaintiff was charged with Class A misdemeanor driving while license is suspended or revoked upon June 15, 2006. This prosecution was commenced by complaint by the Winnebago County States Attorney, via the City Attorneys Office, upon June 16, 2006. Winnebago County 17th Judicial Circuit Case number 2006-TR-030246; ( Exhibit - I. )

3. 2006-TR-030246, et al, had been dismissed upon April 20, 2007, upon arraignment, by 17th Judicial Circuit Court Judge, Honorable John H. Young. The State did not appeal the dismissal; ( Exhibit - II. )

4. A sum of 290 days after the commencement of 2006-TR-030246, as dismissed upon April 20, 2007, the Winnebago County States Attorney indicted the plaintiff illegally, and predicated case 2007CF1671 upon those same exact acts from June 15, 2006, as per dismissed case 2006-TR-030246. This behavior had been barred both by the Illinois Supreme Court and the Second District Appellate Court, specifically against Winnebago County, within People v. Quigley, (1998)183 Ill. 2d 1, 11; and, People V. Phipps, 2-06-0423 (Ill.App. 5-29-2008) ( Exhibit - III.) This defective indictment, is for an alleged offense which is a non-existent criminal offense under Illinois Statutory Law, and the plaintiff is being illegally detained and imprisoned in violation of the United States Constitutional provisions against unlawful arrest and imprisonment;

5. The plaintiff has a current number of 261 actual days of pretrial custody and wrongful imprisonment, as per defective Class 4 felony indictment 2007-CF-1671. This time is yet tolling, for an alleged offense which is a non-existent criminal offense under Illinois statutory Law;

6. The plaintiff is not revoked pursuant to any one of the four statutory defined prerequisite sections required for recidivist Class 4 felony sentencing enhancement after conviction of 625 ILCS 5/6-303(a) as defined within 625 ILCS 5/6-303(d-3); Under section (d-3) a *conviction* is required for recidivist sentencing enhancement, and only when additional prerequisites are present and met. ( Exhibit - IV. ) In People V. Lurz, (2 Dist.2008)379 Ill. App.3d 958, 885 N.E.2d 433, the Illinois Second District Appellate Court maintains whereas:

"Commonly referred to as the *corpus delicti* of the offense, the State must prove the elements in order to get a conviction."

7. In People v. Sheehan, (1995)168 Ill. 2d 298, at 301, 659 N.E.2d 1339, 1343. The court determined that the legislature's use of the term "*committed*" in the statute, rather than "*convicted*," mandated a broader interpretation and included prior offenses for which the defendants successfully completed court supervision. The Court further noted that "*had the legislature intended enhancing offenses to include only those resulting from convictions, it would have so stated.*" Sheehan, at 307. ( *Emphasis added* - See: 625ILCS 5/6-303(d-3)) Also see People V. Jordan, 218 Ill.2d 255 (2006);

8. This Illinois Second District Appellate Court recently maintains within PEOPLE v. FLORES, (2 Dist.2008) 378 Ill. App.3d 493, 882 N.E.2d 1051; whereas:

"The legislature has wide discretion to establish penalties for criminal offenses, but that discretion is limited by the constitutional guarantee that a person may not be deprived of liberty without due process of law. People v. Wright, 194 Ill. 2d 1, 24 (2000), citing In re K.C., 186 Ill. 2d 542, 550 (1999). The Illinois Supreme Court recently maintains within PEOPLE v. BROWN, 104375 (Ill. 6-19-2008) whereas (matters of statutory interpretation present questions of law and are subject to *de novo* review). See In re Jaime P., 223 Ill. 2d 526 (2007) When interpreting a statute, our primary objective is to ascertain and give effect to the intent of the legislature. People v. Palmer, 218 Ill. 2d 148 (2006). Legislative intent is determined by considering the language of the statute, given its plain and ordinary meaning, as well as the purpose and necessity for the law, the evils sought to be remedied, and goals to be achieved. In re Detention of Lieberman, 201 Ill. 2d 300, 308 (2002). Each word, clause and sentence of the statute must be given reasonable meaning and not rendered superfluous, unless to do so would result in absurdity, inconvenience, or injustice. People v. Palmer, 218 Ill. 2d at 156.

9. As per this plaintiff, there is no concern for any public safety at issue. Any additional pretrial imprisonment for a 2003 and a 2006 traffic case defectively enhanced into a non-existent Illinois Statutory Criminal offense, is not only criminal, but is against fundamental fairness and against any interests of justice. The plaintiff humbly moves this Honorable Court for habeas corpus relief and discharge. The respondent did agree with the plaintiff as per all facts, in State Court, yet the Plaintiff is still imprisoned. ( Exhibit - V. ) This is reflected within paragraph #2 of the June 03, 2008, handwritten Court order from the respondent's counsel. Which establishes that there are no contested issues of fact as per this amended emergency habeas corpus pleading as presented before this Court pursuant to those United States Constitutional violations regarding due process, probable cause, equal protection, redress of grievance, et al.

**WHEREFORE** the plaintiff humbly prays for this Honorable Court to grant this amended emergency habeas corpus pleading for release and discharge in the interests of justice and fundamental fairness;

*PLAINTIFF* prays for any just and equitable relief this honorable court further deems to be fair and appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted;

Date: August 7, 2008

By: James Russell Johnson  
Mr. James Russell Johnson, Plaintiff

IN THE UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, WESTERN DIVISION

*People ex rel.*

JAMES RUSSELL JOHNSON,

Plaintiff,

- Vs. -

RICHARD A. MEYERS,

Respondent,

No.: 08 C 50002

A M E N D E D  
EMERGENCY PETITION FOR  
HABEAS CORPUS RELIEF  
PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 2241(c)(3)

O R D E R

This matter coming on to be heard as per an Amended Emergency Petition for Habeas Corpus Relief presented by the Plaintiff, People ex rel. James Russell Johnson. After being duly advised as to the premise enunciated herein, the Plaintiff's Amended Emergency Petition for Habeas Corpus Relief is hereby GRANTED/DENIED.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTER: \_\_\_\_\_

PRESIDING JUDGE

James Russell Johnson, #1716  
Plaintiff  
650 West State Street  
Rockford, Illinois. 61102.

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY)

**NOTICE OF FILING,  
PROOF OF SERVICE**

The undersigned, being duly sworn on oath deposes and states whereas upon August 08, 2008, the original of the attached Amended Emergency Petition for Habeas Corpus Relief, were filed with the United States District Court of the Northern District of Illinois, Western Division, Clerk of Court at 211 South Court Street, Rockford, Illinois. 61101. One copy was served upon the parties as listed below, by placing such within the United States Postal Service of the Winnebago County Justice Center at 650 West State Street, Rockford, Illinois. 61102, in envelopes properly addressed with proper and sufficiency postage affixed to the same.

Winnebago County States Attorney  
ASA Gregory Minger  
400 West State Street, 8th Floor  
Rockford, Illinois. 61101.

Illinois Attorney General's Office  
AAG Jay Paul Hoffmann  
100 West Randolph Street, 12th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois. 60601-3218.

Date: August 7, 2008

/s/ James Russell Johnson  
Mr. James Russell Johnson, Plaintiff

2006 TR 030246 Judge:

From 0/00/0000 To 99/99/999

Case Names \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney Names \_\_\_\_\_  
VS

User: MALONEJ

Wsid: CCMPC43G1

All Entries For

JOHNSON JAMES R

Date

6/16/2006 Complaint 02 Count 002 DRIVING ON REVOKED LICENSE Jun 15, 2006

Defendant JOHNSON JAMES R

Statute 625 5/6-303(a) Class A Orig.

Agency: CHERRY VALLEY Ticket#: 24756

6/16/2006 Bond Type Bond On Companion Case Defendant JOHNSON JAMES R  
ARRAIGNMENT Jul 12, 2006 01:30PM Rm217

7/12/2006 BENCH WARRANT TO ISSUE Bond \$3000.00  
People of the State of Illinois present by CITY  
ATTORNEY. Defendant fails to appear. Bench  
Warrant to issue. Bond Set at 3,000.00 less 10  
percent. Bench Warrant was issued as ordered on  
06tr30245. Concurrent.  
Document WAR Not Printed

4/09/2007 WARRANT RETURNED SERVED  
BENCH WARRANT RETURNED Apr 20, 2007 02:00PM Rm217 Judge HENNESSY

4/20/2007 DISMISSAL PRO SE  
People of the State of Illinois present by Assistant State's  
Attorney, CITY ATTORNEY. Defendant appears Pro Se. On the motion  
of the state, case is dismissed. BOND TO BE REFUNDED TO DEFT AT  
NEW ADDRESS 1604 16TH ST. RKFD, 61104. ORDER FILED IN  
06TR30245.  
Judge: YOUNG JOHN H Clerk: CMC M

4/20/2007 Disposition 02/00 Count 002 No Fine & Cost Signed Judge YOUNG JOHN H  
Defendant JOHNSON JAMES R Asst States Attorney CITY ATTORNEY  
Disposition: Dismiss/State Motion DRIVING ON REVOKED LICENSE  
Disposition Type: Court Action Defendant Plea: No Plea Entered  
Statute 625 5/6-303(a) Class A Orig.  
Sentence: 04/20/2007  
No Fine & Cost .00  
Status: CLOSED Report: Closed Apr 20, 2007  
Judge: YOUNG JOHN H

STATE OF ILLINOIS

CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

FILED

Date: 4/20/07

Thomas A. Klein  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

By CC Deputy  
Winnebago County, IL

The City of Cherry  
Valley

-vs-

James R. Johnson

Case No. 06TR30245-

ORDER

The charges are dismissed on ~~the~~ motion  
of state's attorney.

All cases 06TR 030245, 030246, 030247 +  
030248 ARK hereby dismissed

Dated: 4-20-07

[Signature]  
JUDGE



SJB

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

Plaintiff,

v.

JAMES R. JOHNSON (D.O.B. 10-9-66),

Defendant.

No. 07 CF 1671

**COPY**

BILL OF INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges:

That on or about 15 June 2006, in the County of Winnebago and State of Illinois, JAMES R.

JOHNSON committed the offense commonly called AGGRAVATED DRIVING AFTER

REVOCATION, in that he drove or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle upon a highway in this state at a time when his driving privileges were revoked, in violation of 625 ILCS 5/6-303, the revocation being for a prior conviction for the offense commonly called Driving While Under the Influence of Alcohol, and his having previously been convicted of the offense commonly called Driving after Suspension or Revocation in Winnebago County Illinois on 18 February 1993, 30 January 1998, 2 February 1998, 26 June 1998 and 1 July 1999, and in DeKalb County, Illinois on 17 May 2005 and also on 17 May 2005 for a separate offense, in violation of 625 ILCS 5/6-303(d-3). (Class 4 Felony - Minimum term of imprisonment of 180 days - Extended Term eligible - Mandatory consecutive sentence to 03 CF 2192)

**FILED**

Date: 5/21/07

Thomas A. Klein  
Clerk of the Circuit Court

By [Signature] Deputy  
Winnebago County, IL

A TRUE BILL

[Signature]  
Foreperson

CVPD 06-003062

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
Plaintiff,

v.

JAMES R. JOHNSON (D.O.B. 10-9-66),  
Defendant.

No. 07 CF 1671

INFORMATION

The State's Attorney of said County charges:

That on or about 15 June 2006, in the County of Winnebago and State of Illinois, JAMES R. JOHNSON committed the offense commonly called **AGGRAVATED DRIVING AFTER REVOCATION**, in that he drove or was in actual physical control of a motor vehicle upon a highway in this state at a time when his driving privileges were revoked, in violation of 625 ILCS 5/6-303, the revocation being for a prior conviction for the offense commonly called Driving While Under the Influence of Alcohol, and his having previously been convicted of the offense commonly called Driving after Suspension or Revocation in Winnebago County Illinois on 18 February 1993, 30 January 1998, 2 February 1998, 26 June 1998 and 1 July 1999, and in DeKalb County, Illinois on 17 May 2005 and also on 17 May 2005 for a separate offense, in violation of 625 ILCS 5/6-303(d-3). (Class 4 Felony - Minimum term of imprisonment of 180 days - Extended Term eligible - Mandatory consecutive sentence to 03 CF 2192)

Paul A. Logli  
State's Attorney of the  
County of Winnebago

BY:

Steven J Biagi  
Assistant State's Attorney

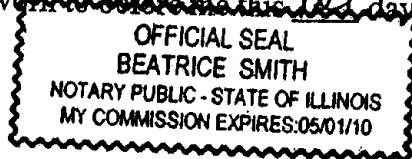
STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
 )  
COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO ) SS

I, Steven J Biagi, of said County and State, being sworn according to law, do on oath say that the matters and things set out and stated in the within information are true, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.



Steven J Biagi  
Assistant State's Attorney

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of May, 2007.



Beatrice Smith  
Notary Public

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE CIRCUIT OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF WINNEBAGO

Information filed this 1st day of MAY, 2007.

Bail set at \$ 260,000. Warrant or Notice ordered to issue.

Ronald Smith  
JUDGE

Said defendant comes now in open court and of his own free will, waives his right to a trial by jury in the above entitled cause, and consents to a trial by the court without a jury. The defendant pleads \_\_\_\_\_  
(guilty or not guilty)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Defendant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE



## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

May 21, 2008

James Russell Johnson MID #1716  
650 West State St  
Rockford, IL 61102

RE: J525-4566-6288

Dear Mr. Johnson,

This office has received your correspondence and the following information is being provided.

In accordance to the Illinois Vehicle Code any driver who receives four convictions for 11-501 (DUI), 11-401 (Leaving the Scene of a Personal Injury Accident), 9-3 of the criminal code (Reckless Homicide), or any combination of these offenses or similar provisions of local ordinances or similar out-of-state offenses committed at different instances and one of the convictions had an arrest date on or after January 1, 1999, the driver is prohibited from making application for any driving relief in Illinois for a lifetime.

A review of your driving record reflects that you were convicted of four separate offenses of driving under the influence (11-501). This resulted in your drivers license and driving privileges being revoked in accordance to authority section 6-205(a)2 of the Illinois Vehicle Code. Be advised, Orders of Revocation have been in effect since November 18, 1992. Since the arrest date of the fourth conviction was April 28, 1999, you are not eligible to obtain a drivers license in the State of Illinois. Therefore, you are not required to pay a reinstatement fee at this time.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office at (217) 782-7037.

Sincerely,

*Mary H. Bandy*

Mary H. Bandy, Supervisor  
Reinstatement Review Unit  
Traffic Violations Section

MHB: dmf

(d) Any person convicted of a second violation of this Section shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony and shall serve a minimum term of imprisonment of 30 days or 300 hours of community service, as determined by the court, if the revocation or suspension was for a violation of Section 11-401 or 11-501 of this Code, or a similar out-of-state offense, or a similar provision of a local ordinance, a violation of Section 9-3 of the Criminal Code of 1961, relating to the offense of reckless homicide, or a similar out-of-state offense, or a statutory summary suspension under Section 11-501.1 of this Code.

(d-1) Except as provided in subsection (d-2) and subsection (d-3), any person convicted of a third or subsequent violation of this Section shall serve a minimum term of imprisonment of 30 days or 300 hours of community service, as determined by the court.

(d-2) Any person convicted of a third violation of this Section is guilty of a Class 4 felony and must serve a minimum term of imprisonment of 30 days if the revocation or suspension was for a violation of Section 11-401 or 11-501 of this Code, or a similar out-of-state offense, or a similar provision of a local ordinance, a violation of Section 9-3 of the Criminal Code of 1961, relating to the offense of reckless homicide, or a similar out-of-state offense, or a statutory summary suspension under Section 11-501.1 of this Code.

(d-3) Any person convicted of a fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, or ninth violation of this Section is guilty of a Class 4 felony and must serve a minimum term of imprisonment of 180 days if the revocation or suspension was for a violation of Section 11-401 or 11-501 of this Code, or a similar out-of-state offense, or a similar provision of a local ordinance, a violation of Section 9-3 of the Criminal Code of 1961, relating to the offense of reckless homicide, or a similar out-of-state offense, or a statutory summary suspension under Section 11-501.1 of this Code.



COURT PURPOSES

J525-456 -6288-0 AB330

01 11 08

DDL: N

PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE ILLINOIS VEHICLE CODE, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS  
FURNISHED FROM THE DRIVER'S LICENSE FILE ON THE PERSON IDENTIFIED ABOVE.

J525-4566-6288-0 PAGE

1 OF 4

JAMES R JOHNSON  
1512 S 5TH ST  
ROCKFORD 61104

SEX	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	HAIR	EYES	D.E.	CLASS	ENDORS	RESTRICTION	EXPIRATION DATE
M	5 10	148	BRN	H2L		N 1 D		NONE	10 09 95

TYPE OF ACTION	DATE OF ARREST	EFFECTIVE DATE OF ACTION	DESCRIPTION OF ACTION	ACCIDENT OR TICKET NO.	TERMINATION DATE OF ACTION	STOP IN EFFECT
97	04 29 87	09 11 87	1 0601 03	5508473	WINNEBAG	
	SPEEDING	11-14 MPH ABOVE LIMIT				
94	08 07 89	08 08 89	6 101 00	79527	WINNEBAG	
	DRIVING WITHOUT VALID	LICENSE OR PERMIT				
03		08 30 89	6 206A19		10 30 89	NO
	HAS VIOLATED SEC 6-101	DRIVING WITHOUT VALID				LIC
96	08 07 89	08 08 89	1 2211 01	79530	WINNEBAG	
	HEADLIGHT VIOLATION					
29		09 10 92			03 16 98	
	CLEARANCE FTA SUSP					
17		10 04 92	1 0501 01		04 04 93	YES
	STATUTORY SUMMARY	SUSPENSION				
94	08 19 92	10 27 92	1 0501 A2	3665	WINNEBAG	
	DUI/ALCOHOL					
01		11 18 92	6 205 A2			YES
	DUI ALCOHOL, OTHER DRUG. OR COMBINATION THEREOF					
47		11 18 92	FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REQUIRED			
	REVOCATION					
94	11 25 92	02 18 93	6 303 A2	7905718	WINNEBAG	
	DRIVING DURING A	REVOCATION/SUSPENSION				
34		03 10 93				YES
17		*06 18 97	1 0501 01		06 18 99	YES
	STATUTORY SUMMARY	SUSPENSION				
17		10 05 97	1 0501 01		10 05 98	YES
	STATUTORY SUMMARY	SUSPENSION				

This is to certify, that to the best of my knowledge and belief, after a careful search of my records, that the information set out herein is a true and accurate copy of the captioned individual's driving record, identified by driver's license number, and I certify that all statutory notices required as a result of any driver control actions taken have been properly given.

*Esse White*

Secretary of State

(SEE REVERSE FOR EXPLANATION OF CODES AND COLUMN HEADINGS)



HABEAS CORPUS

Exhibit - II - 5 pages

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 17th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
WINNEBAGO COUNTY

FILE STAMP

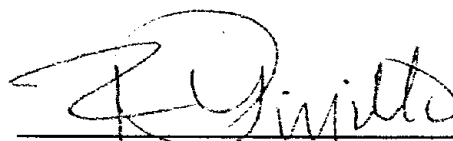
James Russell JohnsonPetitioner

- VS -

Richard MeyerRespondentCase No. 2007 MR 744**ORDER**

This cause coming before the court on Petitioner's Motion for Summary Judgment, the Petitioner present from custody pro se, the Respondent by Assistant State's Attorney Gregory M. Minger, the Court fully advised after hearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1) The Motion for Summary Judgment is denied;
- 2) There being no contested issue of fact, the petition for habeas corpus relief is dismissed on the court's motion.

Dated: 6/3/08


JUDGE



United States District Courthouse  
for the Northern District, Western Division  
Office of the Clerk

211 South Court Street

Rockford, Illinois 61101